

Image Not  
Available

**U.S. Department of Justice**

*United States Attorney  
Eastern District of New York*

---

*One Pierrepont Plaza  
Brooklyn, New York 11201*

*Mailing Address: 147 Pierrepont Street  
Brooklyn, New York 11201*

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**March 7, 2007**

**Contact:**

**Robert Nardoza  
United States Attorney's Office  
(718) 254-6323**

**PRESS RELEASE**

**LONG ISLAND MAN PLEADS GUILTY TO CHILD PORNOGRAPHY CHARGE**

***Conviction Results from "Project Safe Childhood" Initiative***

**Roslynn R. Mauskopf**, United States Attorney for the Eastern District of New York, today announced that JEFFREY FRANCOIS of Westbury, Long Island, pleaded guilty to receipt of child pornography. The proceeding was held before United State District Court Judge Sandra J. Feuerstein at the U.S. Courthouse in Central Islip, New York. FRANCOIS was arrested on February 6, 2006, based upon an indictment charging him with distribution and receipt of child pornography.

The government's investigation began in March 2005, following the receipt of information from the German National Police that an undercover German police officer had downloaded a child pornographic video file received from FRANCOIS via the "KaZaA" network. "KaZaA" is a computer program that allows users to connect with a network of KaZaA users around the world for the purpose of exchanging files. On August 30, 2005, Special Agents of the Department of Homeland Security, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), executed a search warrant at FRANCOIS's residence and seized computer equipment. During the execution of the search warrant, FRANCOIS admitted that he had been downloading child pornography on the Internet for a year prior to the search. A subsequent forensic search of the computer equipment disclosed numerous images and videos of children engaged in sexually explicit conduct.

"Consumers of child pornography remain a top law enforcement priority because the demand for this material results directly in the abuse of children," stated United States Attorney **Mauskopf**. Ms. **Mauskopf** thanked ICE and the German National Police for their assistance in this case.

In February 2006, Attorney General Alberto R. Gonzales created Project Safe Childhood, a nationwide initiative designed to protect children from on-line exploitation and abuse. Led by the United States Attorneys' Offices, Project Safe Childhood marshals federal, state, and local resources to better investigate, apprehend, and prosecute individuals who exploit children via the Internet, as well as identify and rescue victims. For more information about Project Safe Childhood, please visit "<http://www.projectsafechildhood.gov/>."

Upon sentencing, FRANCOIS faces a mandatory minimum sentence of 5 years' imprisonment, a maximum sentence of 20 years' imprisonment, a life term of supervised release, sex offender registration, and a \$250,000 fine.

The government's case is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Allen L. Bode.

**The Defendant:**

Name: JEFFREY FRANCOIS  
DOB: 2/18/1979